equipments etc. for preparing a medal winning team in Athletics, Aquatics (Diving), Archery, Boxing, Weightlifting, Shooting, Wrestling, Equestrian, Sailing and Rowing. Training of sports persons, selected by the Army, has already started in various Sports centres.

Export of Defence Equipments

2109. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Russia, regarding export of defence equipment manufactured in India under licence from Russia;

(b) whether Government has explored the demand of such defence equipment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of such defence equipments exported/to be exported by India to various countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) India and Russia have signed a protocol that export of defence equipment manufactured in India under licence from Russia, to third countries will be considered on a case by case basis.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has exported MIG 21 spares/services to 17 countries under agreements.

Safety at Defence Depots

2110. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the spate of blasts and fire at various defence depots and research centres have been due to human errors;

(b) whether Government and army officials undertake regular visits and checks the safety measures in such centres and depots;

(c) when was the last time such inspection was conducted and the number of such inspections conducted by (a) Government Officials, (b) Army Officials in a year; and

(d) what was the report of the last inspection in terms of Safety norms followed in these centres and depots?